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Re-examination Of The CIA

The battle to take Cuba away from Communist influenced Fidel Castro has ended for the present, at least, but the battle to determine whether the name of CIA, Central Intelligence Agency for the United States, should be changed to Central Incompetency Agency seems to be flaring on all fronts.

An accusing finger is being pointed at CIA for two incidents within a year. These incidents not only have embarrassed the United States as a nation of intelligent people but also have hurt its international prestige—an issue of the recent presidential campaign.

The world had hardly erased the memory of the U2 incident from its mind when the invasion of Cuba became a fiasco. The failure is being placed at the closed doors of the secret CIA which is charged with miscalculating the fire power Castro had to defend his hold on the island and with indicating the people of Cuba would rise up against the bearded dictator and help the invaders.

On the heels of the blunder in Cuba came the insurrection in Algeria. A top ranking Washington official, who said he couldn't be identified, is quoted as

saying the rebellion caught U.S. intelligence not so intelligent.

The last two blunders are being publicly ~~discussed~~ more than 10 days after Attorney General Kennedy had indicated a good look would be taken of the nation's cloak and dagger organization whose operation is one of anonymity.

A few days later President Kennedy took the initiative and appointed Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, former army chief of staff, to conduct a study of intelligence and guerrilla warfare.

Florida's Senator George Smathers has called for a study of CIA and a house cleaning of the State Department.

There are many hot spots in the world today—none more critical, according to Washington, than Laos.

The point is, if many of our leading officials, including the President, feel CIA has failed, then it's time to turn CIA into an organization which will know what is going on in the world and especially in the camps of our enemies.

Its eyes and ears can insure the 15 seconds the people of this nation will need to survive in the event of an attack.